

Tuolumne County Health Care & Safety Coalition Information Sharing Exercise

After-Action Report/Improvement Plan

Exercise Date: May 21, 2019

AAR/IP Date: June 7, 2019

EXERCISE OVERVIEW

Exercise Name	Tuolumne County Health Care & Safety Coalition Information Sharing Exercise
Exercise Dates	May 21, 2019
Scope	This exercise was a functional exercise planned for two hours at individual participant locations. Exercise play was limited to the objectives listed in the Exercise Plan.
Mission Area(s)	Response
Core Capabilities	Information Sharing
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Participants will learn the method for the Health Care Coalition to be linked to the Joint Information Center (JIC) to provide message coordination.2. Coalition partners will understand how to appropriately coordinate within the Joint Information System (JIS).3. Coalition partners will successfully communicate with Tuolumne County Public Health via email, GoToMeeting webinar, EMResource and/or fax, phone, and radio (if applicable).
Threat or Hazard	Natural - wildfire
Scenario	A wildfire is burning in the eastern portion of Tuolumne County and while few homes are affected, the smoke is severely impacting the public's health. Tuolumne County Public Health has asked the Health Care and Safety Coalition to gather as a Multi-Agency Coordinating Group, submit a situation report to the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC), and to test radio capability.
Sponsor	Tuolumne County Public Health Department
Participating Organizations	All members of the Tuolumne County Health Care & Safety Coalition were invited to participate. Participants are listed in Appendix B.
Point of Contact	Rebecca Morgenstern, HPP Coordinator, Tuolumne County Public Health RMorgenstern@co.tuolumne.ca.us , 209-533-7416

ANALYSIS OF CORE CAPABILITIES

Aligning exercise objectives and core capabilities provides a consistent taxonomy for evaluation that transcends individual exercises to support preparedness reporting and trend analysis. Table 1 includes the exercise objectives, aligned core capabilities, and performance ratings for each core capability as observed during the exercise and determined by the evaluation team.

Objective	Performed without Challenges (P)	Performed with Some Challenges (S)	Performed with Major Challenges (M)	Unable to be Performed (U)
Participants will learn the method for the Health Care Coalition to be linked to the Joint Information Center (JIC) to provide message coordination.	P			
Coalition partners will understand how to appropriately coordinate within the Joint Information System (JIS).	P			
Coalition partners will successfully communicate with Tuolumne County Public Health via email, GoToMeeting webinar, EMResource and/or fax, phone, and radio (if applicable).		S		

Table 1. Summary of Core Capability Performance

The following sections provide an overview of the performance related to each exercise objective and associated core capability, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement.

Objective 1: Participants will learn the method for the Health Care Coalition to be linked to the Joint Information Center (JIC) to provide message coordination.

Strengths

The full capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: Participants reported that the training was easy to understand.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

n/a

Objective 2: Coalition partners will understand how to appropriately coordinate within the Joint Information System (JIS).

Strengths

The full capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: Participants reported that the training was easy to understand.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

n/a

Objective 3: Coalition partners will successfully communicate with Tuolumne County Public Health via email, GoToMeeting webinar, EMResource and/or fax, phone and radio (if applicable).

Strengths

The partial capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: The GoToMeeting online meeting program was utilized for the first time by the coalition and it worked very well for communication/information sharing purposes.

Strength 2: Radio capabilities have increased since the last exercise as a result of base station radios being installed in additional locations.

Strength 3: Participants reported that they were able to easily submit situation reports via EMResource and/or fax.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

Area for Improvement 1: Public Health was unable to use their handheld radios to communicate with partners due to the channel being incorrect.

Area for Improvement 2: The base station in Adventist Health Sonora's Command Center was non-functional, but their handheld radios worked, indicating that the new base station needs to be reprogrammed.

Area for Improvement 3: Some Public Health staff were unable to access EMResource due to login issues, and others' EMResource accounts were not receiving Situation Reports like they should.

Area for Improvement 4: When Public Health was having difficulties receiving situation reports, some partners were verbally instructed to send their situation reports via email rather than following the procedure of utilizing fax as backup.

APPENDIX A: IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This IP has been developed specifically for the Tuolumne County Health Care and Safety Coalition as a result of the Tuolumne County HCSC Information Sharing Exercise conducted on May 21, 2019.

Core Capability	Issue/Area for Improvement	Corrective Action	Capability Element ¹	Primary Responsible Organization	Organization POC	Start Date	Goal Completion Date
Core Capability 1: Information Sharing	Public Health was unable to use their handheld radios to communicate with partners due to the channel being incorrect.	Work with County Radio Communications Coordinator to reprogram handheld radios.	Equipment	Public Health	PHEP Coordinator	June 2019	August 2019
	The base station in Adventist Health Sonora's Command Center was non-functional, but their handheld radios worked, indicating that the new base station needs to be reprogrammed.	Work with Columbia Communications to reprogram new base station.	Equipment	Adventist Health Sonora	Emergency Manager	June 2019	August 2019
	Some Public Health staff were unable to access EMResource due to login issues, and others' EMResource accounts were not receiving Situation	Work with Region IV and/or Juvare to ensure all Public Health accounts receive situation reports.	Organization	Public Health	HPP Coordinator	June 2019	July 2019

¹ Capability Elements are: Planning, Organization, Equipment, Training, or Exercise.

	Reports like they should.						
	When Public Health was having difficulties receiving situation reports, some partners were verbally instructed to send their situation reports via email rather than following the procedure of utilizing fax as backup.	Create Situation Reporting flow chart for Public Health staff to facilitate consistent guidance to partners.	Training	Public Health	HPP Coordinator	June 2019	July 2019

APPENDIX B: EXERCISE PARTICIPANTS

Participating Organizations
Adventist Health Sonora (hospital)
Adventist Health Clinic Services
Adventist Health - Health & Wellness
Adventist Health Home Health & Hospice
Adventist Health TCU/SNF
American Red Cross
DRAIL
Infant Child Enrichment Services (ICES)
Mathiesen Memorial Health Clinic
Tuolumne County EMS
Tuolumne County OES
Tuolumne County Public Health
Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools